



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

January 12, 2016

**Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors**

Hilda L. Solis
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

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Third District

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Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

TO: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.
Director

SUBJECT: **RENAMING OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES'
(DHS) AREAS AT LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER**

Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.
Director

Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Chief Medical Officer

Christina R. Ghaly, M.D.
Deputy Director, Strategy and Operations

The Department of Health Services (DHS) is proposing to recognize some of the exceptional accomplishments in our programs by honoring researchers who helped shape their areas of expertise. The following name changes are being proposed for the LAC+USC Medical Center campus. The renaming will involve the presentation of a plaque and a ceremony to commemorate the events:

1. The Hansen's Disease clinic at LAC+USC will be renamed the Dr. Thomas H. Rea Hansen's Disease Clinic in honor of the exceptional research and treatment protocols established under his leadership. Hansen's Disease is more commonly known as leprosy. Rea has earned the respect and admiration of scientists and healthcare providers as an outstanding leprologist, teacher and researcher. Rea acted as the Project Director and later Chief of the Hansen's Disease Program at LAC+USC. Though he formally retired in 2012 after 40 years of service, Dr. Rea continues to volunteer his time and expertise towards caring for these patients at LAC+USC.
2. The Coronary Care Unit at LAC+USC will be renamed to the Dr. L. Julian Haywood Coronary Care Unit in honor of his 50 years of dedicated service to patients, medical students, interns, residents and cardiology fellows. His leadership positions at LAC+USC include: Director of the Electrocardiography (ECG) Department, Director of the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center, Director of the Cardiology Clinics and Director of the Coronary Care Unit for 18 years (from 1966-1984). Dr. Haywood is also highly regarded for his medical research, which has focused on racial disparities in cardiovascular disease and medicine. He has authored over 260 peer reviewed publications, 302 abstracts, 39 editorials and 11 book chapters.

313 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 912
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tel: (213) 240-8101
Fax: (213) 481-0503

www.dhs.lacounty.gov

*To ensure access to high-quality,
patient-centered, cost-effective
health care to Los Angeles County
residents through direct services at
DHS facilities and through
collaboration with community and
university partners.*



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3. The Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) Waiting Room will be renamed the Aida Duarte Villela Waiting Room in honor of her many years of volunteerism. In 1951, Villela brought her daughter to LAC+USC where she joined many other children in Los Angeles County's post-polio rehabilitation program. Although the polio (infantile paralysis) epidemic was worldwide, Los Angeles was one of only a few cities that established treatment programs dedicated to that disease. Years later, Villela's daughter, Dr. Maria Appleman, was able to return to LAC+USC after her post-doctoral training, not as a patient, but as an employee. Dr. Appleman set up a donation fund in her mother's memory, after she passed away. The donations have been used for much needed improvements to the Pediatric Unit.

Each of these individuals were highly regarded and recommended by their respective department chairs and clinical staff. The Governing Body at LAC+USC held a meeting on July 17, 2015 and approved these name changes. LAC+USC will proceed with these changes after two weeks from the date of this memo, unless otherwise instructed by the Board of Supervisors.

Thank you for your continuous support. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or Dan Castillo, LAC+USC Chief Executive Officer, at (323) 409-2800.

MHK:GP:rm

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors